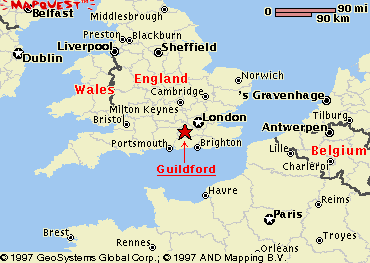
Guildford Pub Bombing

The Guildford pub bombings occurred on 5 October 1974. Two 6-pound bombs were placed in two pubs, *Horse and Groom* and *Seven Stars* in Guildford, England by the Provincial [Irish Republican Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provisional_Irish_Republican_Army) (PIRA). The pubs were chosen because they were popular with [British Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Army) personnel. In total four soldiers and one civilian were killed, as well as sixty-five wounded.



***Horse and Groom***

The bomb in this pub exploded at 8:30 pm. It killed five people in total. Two of which happened to be women from the Royal Army Crops and to Army Scotts as well as one civilian.The pub itself was an old listed building and was severely damaged. The cost to the pub was over £500,000.

***Seven Stars***

After the first explosion it was evacuated. No one was injured or killed in this explosion. As people began to enter back into the pub another bomb went off around 9:00pm injuring a total of 1 people. Four people, three men and one woman, were arrested on December 1974 and were convicted of murder and charged for the bombing of the two pubs. These four were later known as the Guildford four.

Controversy

There is controversy about whether or not these four were in fact the ones in charge of the bombings at Guildford. The four did confess to the bombing. However 15 years later it has been revealed that they were in fact wrongly convicted. They were exposed to intimidation to torture and had threats proposed against family members. They then were held to a biased jury and sentence to 15 years in prison as well as a substantial fine. To this day they have still not found those responsible.



The effectiveness of these bombing were limited while it did scare the British people and gain attention, the bombing itself seemed more to me like a terrorist attack. In gaining media attention for what was happening to the Irish it was effective, however in fixing the problem in the long run it was not. It only made the Irish look cruel and dangerous. As well as this the people who were killed in the bombs were not the ones specifically targeted by the IRA making the bombings even less effective in that sense.

Websites:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guildford_pub_bombings>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guildford_Four_and_Maguire_Seven>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/october/5/newsid_2492000/2492543.stm>

<http://netk.net.au/UK/Bombings3.asp>